



**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS, INC.**  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, DOMINGUEZ HILLS  
1000 E. Victoria St., Carson, CA 90747 ♦ Ph: 310-243-3686 ♦ Fax: 310-928-7141  
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Minutes

Board of Directors

Friday, September 6, 2024, 12:00 – 2:00 PM

Loker Student Union (LSU) CR322

- I. Called to order at 12:03 p.m. by Efrain Contreras, Chairperson.
- II. Roll Call  
**Voting Members Present:** Efrain Contreras, Edgar Mejia-Alezano, Marcelo Cowo, Jhanella Martinez, Scarlet Grave, Kyrsten Tyler, Alexandra Huitzacua, Michelle Gonzalez, Janet Alvarez, and Gyanan Kolasani  
**Voting Members Absent:** Rohan Sonawane and Airam Solorzano  
**Non-Voting Members Present:** Matthew Smith, Kirti Celly, and Gilbert Hernandez  
**Advisors Present:** Rasheedah Shakoor, Michellena Lakey, Raven Emmert, Morelia Castaneda-Patino, Kevin Truong, and Elaine Estrada.  
**Advisors Absent:** Candace Manansala  
**Visitors:** Imari Taylor, Javier Cuevas, Ellie Perry, Aemelia Hellgren and Scarlett Zamora, and Shamshad Elimu
- III. Approval of Agenda – Action Item  
\*M/Cowo, S/Mejia-Alezano to amend the agenda and add Time Certain for Ellie Perry, Office of Sustainability Manager  
**VOTE: UNANIMOUS**  
\*M/Cowo, S/Mejia-Alezano to approve the agenda of September 6, 2024 as submitted with the amendment. **VOTE: UNANIMOUS**
- IV. Approval of Minutes (August 23, 2024) – Action Item  
\*M/Cowo, S/Grave to table the minutes of August 23, 2024  
**VOTE: UNANIMOUS**
- V. Time Certain 12:30 PM – Javier Cuevas, CSUDH Project Rebound Program Coordinator  
The Board will hear from Javier Cuevas regarding information about Project Rebound at CSUDH.  
Cuevas mentioned that Project Rebound supports formerly incarcerated students and that it is the program's second semester on campus. He is a graduate of CLSB and serves as the project coordinator. He has been collaborating with the Department of Rehabilitation to assist students on and off campus. Currently, 27 students in the program will have the opportunity to give back to this population. Additionally, Cuevas is working with several nonprofits and organizations such as Toro Guardian

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Scholars, Scholars United, and ECOS of Hope. Emmert suggested that the Board of Directors attend the Pathways to College sessions every Monday to become more informed about these efforts. Alvarez thanked Cuevas for his presentation, and Celly expressed interest in helping to disseminate this information to faculty, encouraging Cuevas to reach out if there is a need for faculty involvement.

### VI Time Certain 1:00 PM – Ellie Perry, Sustainability Office Manager

Perry emphasized that ASI has always been a great partner in terms of sustainability, and they want to thank the Board. Hellgren announced that there will soon announce a Bike Rental Program offering free bikes via the eToto App, Metro-U passes available for 75 cents per ride (50% off), ride passes but not an annual pass, all this with no unit limit, and open to all students. They will mark the east walkway trail to provide more access for bikes, skateboards, EV bikes, and scooters. They also launched a free carpool match program. The email was sent to all the students with more information available on their website. They also offer internships and other ways of engagement including pop-up thrifts. Perry mentioned that they'll have to charge for electricity, possibly 35 cents. Shakoore asked if the free chargers would be going away and Perry said yes. She also confirmed that bike repair hubs have been set up near Welch Hall. To register for the bus, use the metro app on Toro mail, which is how you become eligible. Hernandez asked if there would be a way for the public to use it. Perry noted only students with the app with a profile specifically for students.

### VII. Reports

**ASI President** – Mejia-Alezano mentioned that the ASI Board of Directors and front desk staff had an informal dinner with the University President's cabinet. Additionally, a demolished field is being prepared for a new recreational center, which is expected to promote intramural activities. Mejia-Alezano met with the university President they discussed funding for the Spring Fling and the Student Housing concerns. He announced the upcoming movie night and the Student Veterans Alliance Advisory Committee (SVAAC) with Dr. Bobbie Porter.

**Executive Vice President** – Cowo met with VP Wallace to discuss current activities and future plans within ASI.

**Director of Student Services** – Cowo gave Sonawane's report "he was approached by students regarding issues with Handshake and concerns about interactions with homeless individuals". Cowo suggested that the students seek assistance from the police department for safety during late classes and encouraged them to attend a Board of Directors meeting.

**Elections Commissioner** – Gonzalez conducted the first Election meeting and discussed the Election Timeline. They are working on graphics for the upcoming election.

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**University President's Designee** – Smith discussed the new Time, Place, and Manner Policy, which provides a detailed outline of permissible and prohibited activities. Training for managers on this policy is underway before it is presented to faculty and staff.

**Alumni Liaison** – Hernandez mentioned that a survey on social mobility on campus and another survey focusing on alumni from 2014-2019 is in progress. They are working on a thank-you celebration for Solache. He further noted interest in collaborating on initiatives to promote Toro Connect through various channels such as social media, stickers, flyers, and digital promotions, to launch these efforts next month.

**Executive Director** – Shakoor noted that the audit is nearing completion. A meeting is scheduled for September 18<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. and she would like to meet with the committee members before that. The Child Development Center (CDC) is reaching capacity, and we are actively seeking community parents to join the center to enhance diversity. We need 2 parents to fill out the programming and improve our marketing efforts.

**Associate Director** – Lakey noted we hired a Social Media Assistant. The Board of Directors (BOD) should remember to complete their independent checklists. We have been streamlining the Workplace Violence Prevention plan with the campus.

**Marketing & Public Relations Coordinator** – Emmert reported a successful involvement fair with a good turnout and KDHR provided the music. She has also welcomed a new Social Media Assistant. She has initiated the ballot bowl and is now emphasizing and informing students about it. We have also filmed with Grave (ASI Director of Legislative Affairs) and hope to engage with the campus on this matter. We are working with Estrada on the ASI advocacy team. There are 2 listening tours scheduled for September 19<sup>th</sup>, at 2:30 p.m. in BRC, and October 1<sup>st</sup>, at 3:30 p.m. in APPCC with the Office of First Year and Student Engagement (OFYSE). These tours are aimed at gathering feedback on how ASI can better serve the students. She has received numerous comments about Financial Aid on our social media page and has been redirecting them to the Financial Aid office. However, she plans to reach out to the financial aid office regarding this issue.

**Event Coordinator** – Truong met with Dr. Gayle Ball to discuss legislative affairs. He mentions recently they held a successful internship recruitment day and an iron-on patch event. We are in contact with the Office of Community Standards and have a dinner scheduled with the Dean of Students, Dr. Smith, and Dr. Khaleah Bradshaw to discuss specific engagements on campus. He has a commuter outreach event scheduled for next Tuesday and is also preparing for National Voter Registration Day using the sign-up genius.

**Graduate Assistant** – Estrada reported a high volume of Internship Applications and interviews are scheduled to continue next week. The upcoming leadership session will focus on the importance of punctuality.

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VIII. Open Forum – Agenda Items Only

Time for members of the audience to address the Board on specific agenda items only.

Castaneda-Patino mentioned that a few students received the "Toro Tuesday Scholarship," and although it has been processed on our end, there seems to be an issue with financial aid. Students have been notified that there is a hold on their accounts, and their classes will not be dropped. Alvarez has been approached by students who feel that their concerns regarding financial aid have not been addressed, and there have been no updates. One student is considering buying books, a parking pass, insurance, and rent. Celly, Smith, and Lakey suggested involving Vice President Franklin, as he held a financial aid task force meeting last spring. Shakoor mentioned that changes to FAFSA this year may have caused adjustments and staffing changes that affected students. Hernandez noted that scholarships go through TAP before reaching financial aid, and the recent changes in financial aid processes may be causing issues. He suggested involving Vice President Franklin and keeping students informed about the actions being taken. Emmert suggested following up with students and informing them that the issue has been brought up to the Board of Directors and by our Dean of Students and that the Vice President is aware of it.

IX. Open Forum – Agenda Items Only

Time for members of the audience to address the Board on specific agenda items only. None

X. Unfinished Business

A. Board of Directors/Student-at-Large Appointment – Action Item

The Board will discuss and consider appointments for Board of Directors and Student-at-Large Interns and Liaisons

\*M/Mejia-Alezano, S/Cowo to table the Board of Directors/Student-at-Large appointment. **VOTE: UNANIMOUS**

XI. New Business

A. Election Timeline – Discussion/Action Item

The Board will discuss and consider the approval of the Election Timeline for the 2025 ASI Elections.

Truong went over the Timeline line by line to explain and answered questions (attached to the minutes).

XI. Open Forum – Discussion Item

Time for members of the audience to address the Board.

Truong mentioned that the funds for the Toro Tuesday scholarships have already been

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deducted from our account, so the issue lies entirely with financial aid. Castaneda Patino mentioned that Tyler had the first Organization Commission meeting The letter requesting support for the Transportation plan was approved by Cowo, and he believes we should pass it on to Sonawane.

- XI. Adjournment  
Meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

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